

REMARKS

Claims 74-79 are pending in the present application. In the Office Action dated September 24, 2004, the Examiner rejected claims 74-79 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,179,689 B1 to Ohno, *et al.* ("Ohno").

The disclosed embodiments of the invention will now be discussed in comparison to the cited references. Of course, the discussion of the disclosed embodiments, and the discussion of the differences between the disclosed embodiments and the cited references, do not define the scope or interpretation of any of the claims. Instead, such discussed differences merely help the Examiner appreciate important claim distinctions discussed thereafter.

On July 7, 2004 Applicants filed a Response under 37 CFR 1.116 and a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 CFR 1.114. In the Response of July 7, 2004, Applicants presented arguments in support of patentability of claims 74-79 over the Ohno reference.

Applicants respectfully submit that it appears from the Office Action of September 24, 2004, the Examiner did not consider the arguments presented by Applicants in their Response of July 7, 2004. In fact, in Section 4 of the Office Action of September 24, 2004, the Examiner said "**Applicants arguments filed November 6, 2003 and December 1, 2003 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.**" Applicants respectfully request clarification and also request that the Examiner consider the arguments presented in the Response of July 7, 2004.

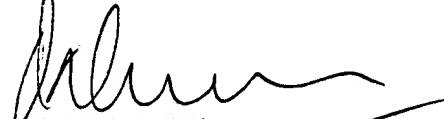
In order to further distinguish the pending claims from the Ohno reference, Applicants have amended claims 74 and 77. The patentably distinct differences between the Ohno reference and the claims will be specifically pointed out.

Presently amended independent claims 74 and 77 each recite in part, "the supply roll being attached to the cartridge frame having a linear member extending directly between the axes of the supply roll and the take up roll." The Ohno reference discloses a cartridge frame between a supply roll and a take up roll (Figure 6 of the Ohno reference). However, the cartridge frame does not include a linear member that directly extends between *the axes of* the supply roll and the take up roll. Rather, the linear member in of the Ohno reference bends at both ends to attach to the two sides of a cassette 28. Since Ohno does not disclose or teach linear members that extend directly between *the axes of* the supply roll and the take up roll, claims 74 and 77 are allowable over the Ohno reference. Claims depending from claims 74 and 77 are also allowable

due to depending from an allowable base claim and further in view of additional limitations recited in the dependent claims.

All of the claims remaining in the application are now clearly allowable. Favorable consideration and a timely Notice of Allowance are earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,
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Enclosures:

- Postcard
- Check
- Fee Transmittal Sheet (+ copy)
- Supp. IDS (+copy)
- Form PTO-1449 with (5) Cited References

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